



# **Foreign Efforts to Undermine American Democracy – Implications beyond Washington**

Filters and Selections

SHOW FILTERS

Selected Dates  
9/1/2000 - 12/1/2018

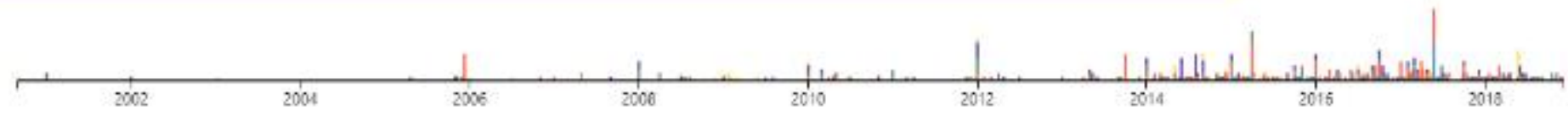
Selected Countries  
42 Countries

Selected Tools  
ALL

Selected Incidents  
414 Incidents

See All Data

Help



- Information Operations
- Political and Social Subver...
- Cyberattacks
- Malign Finance
- Strategic Econ...

# Information Operations – Covert Tactics

## Internet Research Agency



The IRA bought U.S. political ads on social media without disclosure or detection in 2016, including \$100,000 spent on about 3,000 ads on Facebook that may have helped IRA content reach roughly as many U.S. viewers as actually voted in the election.

## Sputnik employees posing as news sites



Facebook removed 364 pages linked to Sputnik employees who were pretending to be independent news agencies. They paid \$135,000 for advertisements and had about 790,000 followers in Eastern Europe and elsewhere, posting in issues such as anti-NATO sentiment, protest movements, and anti-corruption.



# Information Operations – Targeting Local Communities and Amplifying Divisions

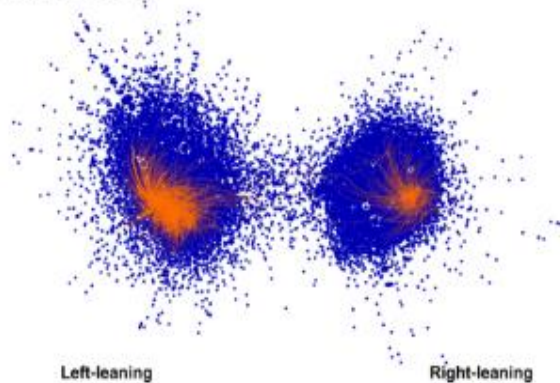




AUG 10 No Unite The Right 2 - DC  
Public · Hosted by [Resister](#) and 5 others



Information operations often seek to **coopt legitimate social movements by impersonating activists, engaging with organizations and businesses on the ground, and even organizing and funding protests.**



***Pulling Conversation to extremes:*** Retweet network graph of accounts discussing #blacklivesmatter and #bluelivesmatter, including IRA accounts (orange) mapped over normal accounts (blue)

\*Graph via [Kate Starbird](#)

What  
Happens  
Online  
Doesn't  
Stay  
Online



Heart of Texas added an event  
May 5 at 8:44am · W

MAY 21, 2016 / 12:00 PM

**STOP ISLAMIZATION OF TEXAS**

MAY 21 **Stop Islamization of Texas**  
Sat 12 PM - Islamic Da'wah Center 201 Travis St...  
79 people interested · 10 people going

★ Interested



United Muslims of America shared their event.  
Sponsored · W

It's been only a month since Library of Islamic Knowledge at the center in Houston is open:

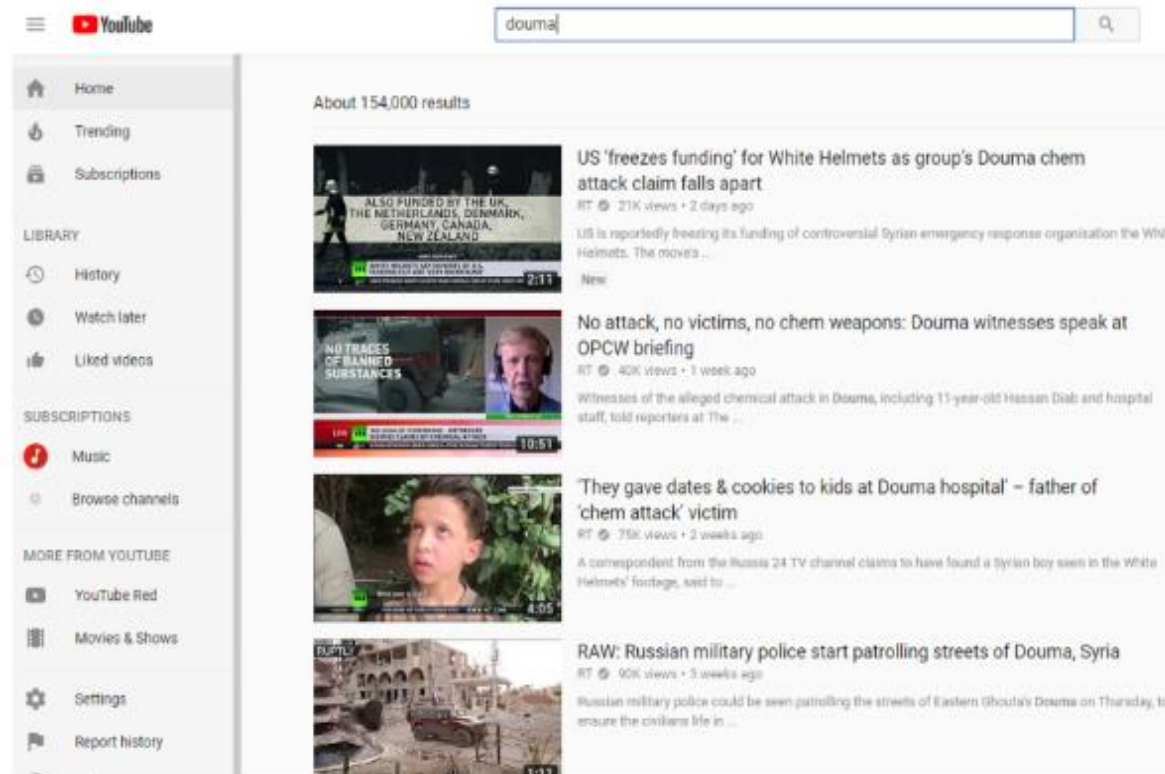
**SAVE ISLAMIC KNOWLEDGE**  
May 21 at 12:00 PM, Houston TX

MAY 21 **SAVE ISLAMIC KNOWLEDGE**  
Sat 12 PM - Islamic Da'wah Center 201 Travis St...  
42 people interested · 10 people going

★ Interested



# Information Operations – Algorithmic Exploitation



The screenshot shows a YouTube search for "douma" with approximately 154,000 results. The search results are as follows:

- Video 1:** "US 'freezes funding' for White Helmets as group's Douma chem attack claim falls apart". RT @ 21K views • 2 days ago. Description: "US is reportedly freezing its funding of controversial Syrian emergency response organisation the White Helmets. The move..."
- Video 2:** "No attack, no victims, no chem weapons: Douma witnesses speak at OPCW briefing". RT @ 40K views • 1 week ago. Description: "Witnesses of the alleged chemical attack in Douma, including 11-year-old Hassan Diab and hospital staff, told reporters at The..."
- Video 3:** "They gave dates & cookies to kids at Douma hospital' – father of 'chem attack' victim". RT @ 75K views • 2 weeks ago. Description: "A correspondent from the Russia 24 TV channel claims to have found a Syrian boy seen in the White Helmets' footage, sent to..."
- Video 4:** "RAW: Russian military police start patrolling streets of Douma, Syria". RT @ 90K views • 3 weeks ago. Description: "Russian military police could be seen patrolling the streets of Eastern Ghouta's Douma on Thursday, to ensure the civilians life in..."



white helmets



All News Videos Images Shopping More Settings Tools

About 43,700,000 results (0.76 seconds)

### Top stories



Deeper Look at White Helmets: Syrian 'Civil Defense' NGO or Jihadists' PR Arm?

Sputnik International  
1 day ago



US Halt of Funding to White Helmets Aimed to Distract From Useful Tool - Analyst

Sputnik International  
2 days ago



Handout

Sputnik International  
2 days ago

→ More for white helmets

### Support the White Helmets

<https://www.whitehelmets.org/>

When the bombs rain down, the **White Helmets** rush in. Unarmed and neutral they've saved 114431+ lives and counting. Support them now.



## White Helmets

Syrian Civil War

The White Helmets, officially known as Syria Civil Defence, is a volunteer organisation that operates in parts of rebel-controlled Syria and in Turkey. [Wikipedia](#)

**Founder:** James Le Mesurier

**Founded:** 2014

**Volunteers:** 3,000 (with monthly stipend)

**Motto:** "To save a life is to save all of humanity."

**Purpose:** Civil defense

**Number of volunteers:** 3,000 (with monthly stipend)



# It's Not Just Russia



On the right, the legitimate accounts for Republican midterm political candidates Maria Livengood and Jineea Butler. On the left, Iranian inauthentic accounts. Via [FireEye](#)

# It's Not Just Russia



**Sarah Warren** @SarahWarrenD

Trump is trying to kill off ObamaCare but fact remains that most Americans need and want ObamaCare. Do you??



**Alex Ryan** @AlexRyanNY

She just canceled her concert in Israel. Bravo @LanaDelRey



**Maria Livengood** @livengood\_maria · 14 Sep 2018

Labor Day weekend 13 Years ago, I surprised Ray and our wedding guests with a late night In-N-Out delivery! Here is this years Anniversary burgers! @RULivengood2 #InNOutBurger



Via [FireEye](#)

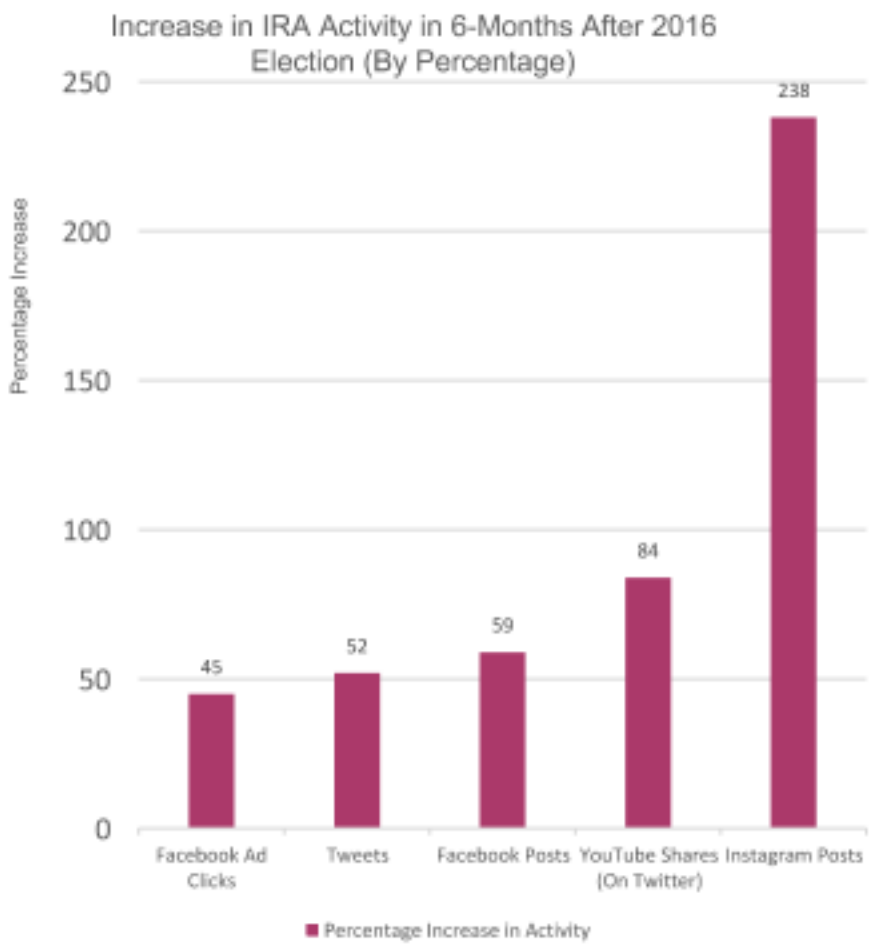


**Maria Livengood** @marialivengood · 1 Sep 2018

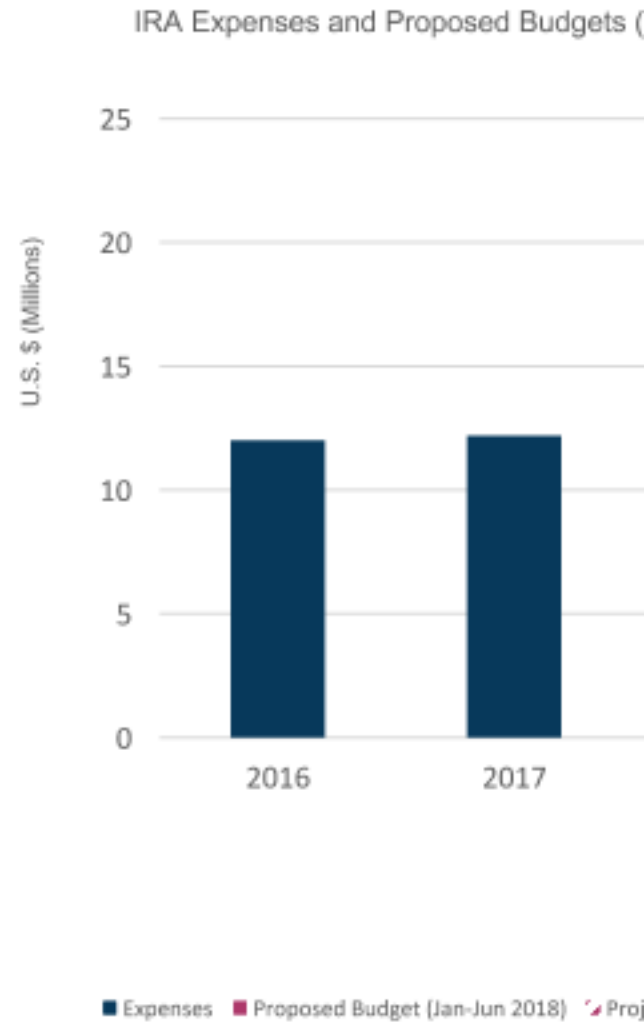
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# Information Operations – Not Just About Elections



Data: [Oxford University/Senate Select Intelligence Committee](#)



Based off Data Provided by the Department